REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed November 14, 2008. In the Office Action, all claims 1-15 were pending and rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 8, 13, and 14 are amended; claims 2-4, 7, 12, and 15 are canceled; and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application.

Page Two of the Office Action indicated that claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants have canceled that claim.

Page Three of the Office Action indicated that claims 1 and 13, among others, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gong et al. (U.S. Patent Publ. 2004/0179778 A1 – hereinafter "Gong"). Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 13, and respectfully submit that those claims are allowable over Gong in view of the following.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a computer-implemented method of recognizing speech which, among other things, includes employing a computing device to recognize a predefined prefix in user speech, the predefined prefix being associated with a single grammar in a set of grammars wherein the predefined prefix is also associated with a target software application. Text is then recognized from the speech following the prefix using the single grammar associated with the detected predefined prefix. Finally, the recognized text is directed to the target software application associated with the single grammar. Applicants respectfully submit that Gong does not provide, among other things, directing the recognized text to the target software application associated with the single grammar. Gong does appear to provide dynamic grammar selection based upon a first input category. However, the closest Gong appears to get to directing the recognized text to a target appears to be provided in paragraph 0271. Specifically, that paragraph provides that the user "may alternatively use fields individually, simply by providing an activation signal for a selected one of the currently activated grammars. For example, the activation signal may involve saying the name of the desired field associated with the grammar to be activated." This discussion of fields is in the context of paragraph 0272 which provides a number of fields on page 2600. Accordingly, there does not appear to be an association between a single grammar and a target software application as set forth in amended independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended

independent claim 1 is allowable over, and certainly not anticipated by, Gong. Additional amendments to independent claim 1 have been effected to better clarify that the method of recognizing speech is implemented upon a computer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is allowable over Gong. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 5, 6, 8, 10, and 11 are allowable as well by virtue of their dependency, either directly or indirectly, from allowable amended independent claim 1.

Independent claim 13 has also been amended to recite using a grammar associated with the desired category, and wherein the output is provided to a target software application associated with the grammar associated with the prefix. Applicants respectfully submit that this feature is neither taught nor suggested by Gong as set forth above with respect to independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 13 is allowable over, and certainly not anticipated by, Gong. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that amended dependent claim 14 is allowable, at least, by virtue of its dependency from amended independent claim 13.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the entire application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:_____
Christopher R. Christenson, Reg. No. 42,413
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

CRC:lah